DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir. Construction work has not yet started.

(b) an amount of Rs. 7.30 crores has been spent on this project till December, 1988.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As per the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two Joint Venture partners viz. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. & Tata Chemicals Ltd., a Detailed Project Report (DPR) was submitted by them in May, 1988. The DPR was examined by the Government and the Joint Venture Company was asked to incorporate material relating to evaluation of different processing schemes, some detailed engineering etc. in the DPR which is essential to arrive at a realistic cost estimate and time frame for project implementation. Target date for completion has not been fixed.

Production and supply of liquified petroleum gas in the country

676. SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it has not been possible to maintain the supply of liquified gas in proportion to its demand in the country for the last three years;

(b) if so, what is the annual production of liquified petroleum gas in the country;

(c) what quantity of this gas out of its total production is utilised by the common consumers; and

(d) what is the quantity of gas imported in order to meet its demand during the last three years and in the first nine months of the corrent financial year as also the cost at which it was so imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) As it is a clean, cheap and convenient cooking fuel, demand for LPG continues to outstrip supply;

(b) and (c) The total estimated requirement of LPG during 1988-89 is about 1.97 million MT. It is proposed to meet it from the estimated indigenous production of 1.75 million MT and through imports to the extent of shortfall;

(d) The information is given below:

Year	Quantity imported (in 000 MT)	Cost (Rs/Lakhs)
1985-86	32	1090
1986-87	22	409
1987-88	152	4501
1988-89	167	4900

(As on 1-1-89—Provisional)

Exploration of Petroleum and Natural Gas in the Krishna-Godavari basins

677. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA KRISHNA:

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position with regard to Petroleum and Natural Gas in the explorations in Krishna-Godavari basins;

(b) what are the current estimates of commercially viable production in respect of the gas and oil in the same basin; and

(c) what are the plans for utilisation of these production in the Eighth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The basin is under exploration. As on 1-1-1988, geological reserves of 20.03 million tonnes of oil and 20.643 billion cubic metres of gas, have been established.